1732. [Transferred to 11th May 1993)

Military Links between US and PAK

1733. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that US Government have requested for visit of Army's to Siachen;

(b) whether Government are aware of the continuous military links between US and Pakistan and of holding joining military exercises with the Pak Army Commando (SSG);

(c) whether it is also a fact that Pakistan has been consistantly using SSG as a spear head against India in its attempt to dislodge Indian forces at Siachen; and

(d) if so, what is the reaction of the Government with regard to the US-Pak military ties in so far as India's bilateral relation with the Government of US is concerned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The US and Pakistan have a long-standing cooperation involving their armed forces. A US commando team and Pakistan's SSG personnel conducted a joint trainig exercise in the area of Attock during February 7- March 3, 1993.

(c) Pakistan has deployed in the past its SSG personnel in operations against Indian troops in the Siachen area.

(d) Goverment monitor all developments having a bearing on India's security including the ongoing military cooperation between the US and Pakistan which in the past had included transfer of major weapons systems to Pakistan.

Government have conveyed its concern to all concerned, includig the US, regarding Pakistan acquiring military capabilities beyond its legitimate defence requirements.

Holding back of fishing funds by SCICI

@1734. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Economic Times dated the 25th March, 1993 captioned "SCICI holding back fishing sector funds";

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what is the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether it is a fact that the SCICI held discussions with Ministry of Food Processing Industires regarding the revival of deep-sea fishery sector in Andhra Pradesh;

(d) if so, what are the details of this discussion; and

(e) whether officials of SCICI sought to dissuade the Ministry of Food processing Industries from making efforts to revive the sick fishery sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In general, the news item highlights an accusation by the deep-sea fishing industry that SCICI is not playing a positive role in reviving the sick deep sea fisheing industry and that the rehabilitation package earlier announced, is inadequate. The Government is seized of the problems of the deep sea fishing industry and has constituted a Technical Committee to look into the same and suggest remedial measures.

@Previously unstarred question 896, transferred from 4th May, 1993